COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

KATE BROWNING

County Legislator, 3rd District Public Safety Committee, Chair

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New Traffic Light Coming to Dangerous Bellport Intersection

Legislators Browning & Calarco Secure Approval at Harrison Ave. & C.R. 101

Hauppauge, NY – The Suffolk County Legislature approved IR 1200-17 on Tuesday April 25, 2017 at its general meeting. Sponsored by Legislators Kate Browning (WF-Shirley) and Rob Calarco (D-Patchogue), the bill funds the installation of a stop light at the dangerous intersection of Harrison Ave. and County Road 101 in Bellport. The intersection has a long history of serious accidents, and local residents have been advocating for years to improve traffic safety there.

The Suffolk County Department of Public Works had declined to install a traffic light at the intersection, and instead was pursuing more expensive remedies that were not well received by the community, so Legislators Browning and Calarco took action by filing legislation authorizing the installation of the traffic light.

"A traffic light has always been the most cost effective solution to address safety concerns at Harrison Ave," said Legislator Browning. "It's also always been the local resident's first choice when provided with engineering options. It makes the most sense, and the community will finally be able to enter and exit their neighborhood without fearing for their lives."

With the approval of IR 1200-17, the Department of Public Works is now directed to install the much needed traffic light, and the necessary funding is in place to complete the project.

"Residents have had problems with this intersection for more than a decade," stated Legislator Rob Calarco. "We can no longer wait for people to be able to cross the road safely, without fear of getting hit by the heavy traffic on Route 101. I applaud Legislator Browning and her Chief of Staff, Josh Slaughter, for taking the lead on this issue."

The intersection is shared by Legislator Browning's district on the east side of CR 101 and Legislator Calarco's district on the west side of CR 101.

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